

CITY COUNCIL 6.D

CITY OF LYNNWOOD CITY COUNCIL

TITLE: Discussion: Protecting Immigrant Safety, Constitutional Rights, and Community Trust

DEPARTMENT CONTACT: Estee Milburn, City Council

SUMMARY:

This resolution reaffirms Lynnwood's commitment to constitutional rights, acknowledges concerns regarding federal immigration enforcement impacts, affirms state law limitations, and promotes transparency, accountability, and coordinated implementation.

PRESENTER:

Isabel Mata, Council Member

ESTIMATED TIME:

30

BACKGROUND:

The first draft of this resolution was reviewed during the February 17 work session where feedback was given on numerous items. The resolution has since been reviewed by legal. The legal feedback was that because resolutions are policy statements and not legally binding, certain language in the resolution risked creating unrealistic public expectations that Lynnwood police could verify the identity or legality of federal immigration enforcement activities, which they cannot compel and may not be able to reliably determine. The recommended revisions clarify the limits of local authority, avoid potentially misleading or unsafe expectations, and align the resolution with existing police guidance and lawful, practical policing practices. This work session is intended to review the changes and refine prior to a vote next week.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Council discussion and feedback during the Work Session, followed by consideration of adoption at a future Business Meeting.

If adopted, the resolution requests that the Mayor:

- Ensure continued compliance with applicable Washington State law;
- Coordinate implementation across City departments;
- Enhance public outreach and access to information; and
- Prepare potential future legislative recommendations related to transparency and accountability, if appropriate.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTIONS:

2017: The Mayor, City Council, and Chief of Police co-signed Resolution 2017-03 reaffirming the City of Lynnwood's commitment to being a safe, welcoming, and equitable community for all.

October 30, 2025: The Mayor and City Council paused use of Flock Safety cameras after identifying compliance concerns under Washington's *Keep Washington Working Act*, highlighting the City's obligation to ensure compliance with state law and protect against the misuse of surveillance technology in ways that could undermine community trust.

February 9, 2026: The Mayor and Chief of Police issued a public statement reaffirming Lynnwood's commitment to constitutional protections, public safety, and community trust.

February 17, 2026: Council and Chief of Police reviewed the initial draft of the resolution and proposed revisions to be incorporated prior to the March 2 Work Session. The revisions are reflected in the summary and in Sections 4 and 5 of the updated resolution.

February 23, 2026: Council unanimously approved cancelling the contract with Flock.

FUNDING:

There is no direct financial impact to the City, aside from potential staff time.

VISIONS AND PRIORITIES ALIGNMENT:

This item aligns with the City of Lynnwood Strategic Plan, Priority 4: Be a Safe Community.

Reaffirming constitutional rights, transparency, and lawful governance supports public safety, strengthens community trust, and advances Lynnwood's vision of engaged residents and accountable local government.

Lynnwood's commitment that "All Are Welcome" must also mean that all residents are able to access City services, participate in civic life, and exercise constitutional rights without fear or discrimination.

DEPARTMENT ATTACHMENTS

Description:

[Draft Updated Resolution.pdf](#)